Vascular and Neurologic Complications of Diabetes Mellitus

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Vascular and Neurologic Complications of Diabetes Mellitus

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Preface

This volume represents the edited version of the lectures and short communications presented at the ‘2nd International Diabetes Conference’ on the Vascular and Neurologic Complications of Diabetes Mellitus, held in Florence
(Italy) on November 7-9, 1985. Diabetes complications are certainly an area
where in recent years intensive research has been carried out and significant
progress has been done with regard to both the pathogenetic mechanisms and
the clinical or therapeutic aspects. This has prompted us to organize a Conference
on these topics and to publish its contents in this proceedings volume,
in order to provide the interested physician or scientist with an updated survey
of the various aspects of diabetes complications.
Reflecting the contents of the Conference, this book comprises a series
of review articles on the various facets of diabetes complications, written by
recognized experts in this field. The first chapter deals with the pathogenetic
factors of microangiopathy, including metabolic and functional changes,
onenzymatic glycosylation, endothelial and platelet alterations, and immunologic
abnormalities. This is followed by a detailed discussion of pathophysiological
and clinical aspects of diabetic nephropathy and retinopathy
as well as of dyslipidemia and macroangiopathy as related to diabetes. Then
an exhaustive analysis is given of diabetic peripheral and autonomic neuropathy,
which is considered in its metabolic mechanism, functional disorders
and clinical pictures. A report on the diabetic foot is also included. The book
is enriched by a final chapter recording a group of short communications on
research topics of current interest.

Preface X

We hope that this volume may provide a comprehensive account of what
is presently known about the vascular and neurologic complications of
diabetes mellitus and that its features may be useful to, and appreciated by
scientists and clinicians interested in diabetology and metabolism.
Our sincere thanks are due to the Publisher S. Karger AG and its staff
for their kind and efficient cooperation.

Francesco Belfiore
Gian Michele Molinatti
Joseph R. Williamson

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and to the publication of this volume is gratefully acknowledged.